



Fish and Wildlife Conservation

How Fish and Wildlife Dollars Are Used in Your Backyard

Eau Claire County

County characteristics

- 637.64 sq. mi.
- The county is a mixture of rolling farmland, interspersed with woodlots, and larger forested areas associated with the Eau Claire County Forest.
- 20 lakes totaling 2,838 acres.
- Experiencing rapid residential and industrial growth area.
- There are 93,142 residents living in Eau Claire County.



Land Open to Hunting and Fishing

- 2,616 acres of state land including fish and wildlife areas and Augusta Wildlife Area (2,100 acres)

Locate DNR properties at:

http://www.dnr.wi.gov/org/land/facilities/dnr_land_mapping.html

Fish and Wildlife Staff serving you

- DNR Service Center, 1300 W Clairemont Ave. 54701
- 5 Customer Service Reps located at service center
- 1 Wildlife Biologist; 1 Wildlife Technician;
1 Fisheries Biologist; 1 Fisheries Technician
(Staff also serves Chippewa County)
- 1 Conservation Warden (1 Warden vacancy) stationed in Eau Claire County.

Activities Funded by Your Hunting and Fishing Dollars

- Establish and maintain grassland/ wetland habitat for ducks, pheasants, and other wildlife species.
- Preserve and restore original prairie remnants on public and private lands.
- Enforcement – patrol lakes for boat and fish rule compliance, protect sturgeon and paddlefish, teach youth education classes/certify instructors, hunting enforcement, environment protection enforcement (stormwater runoff, grading, pollution, litter), court officer duties, process permit applications. Review township ordinance proposals.
- Conduct public outreach efforts including youth pheasant hunt, staffing Deer Classic-State Fair-Farm Technology booths, provide TV-radio and newspaper interviews.
- Monitor fish populations in local lakes, rivers and streams.
- Manage DNR land by posting public hunting and access sites, as well as building and maintaining parking areas.



Activities continued...

- Monitor local wildlife populations of ducks, geese, pheasants, grouse, woodcock, deer, frogs, grassland birds, eagles, osprey, black bear.
- Respond to wildlife damage and nuisance complaints and monitor wildlife diseases including CWD and West Nile Virus.
- Evaluate proposed projects for environmental impacts, work to keep habitats intact and functional for fish and wildlife.
- Provide educational programs for schools, conservation organizations and civic groups.

Eau Claire County Conservation Snapshots

- **57,295** acres of public land
- **13** ALIS license agents supported
- **7** deer/turkey/bear registration stations
- Investigate 20 hotline, 38 fish & game, 17 environmental protection complaints
- Over 6 miles of public access on trout streams



Fish & Wildlife Stocking Summary

- Stock 3 lakes with over 5,000 musky biannually.
- A minimum of 6 streams stocked with over 26,000 trout each year.
- Eau Claire Rod & Gun Club's Day Old Chick Program has historically released 2,400 pheasants.

County Success Stories

- Thousands of acres of warm season grasses have been planted through cooperative effort of the USDA, USFWS, DNR, and private contractors.
- Wild turkeys were released into the county in the winter of 1991. Since then they have flourished and are providing excellent hunting opportunities.
- Wild pheasants were released in south-central Eau Claire County starting in 2000. The population has shown a steady increase since then.
- Restore environmental stability to the Chippewa River and the impoundments through the hydropower re-licensing process.

Statewide challenges to maintaining your hunting and fishing opportunities

- Without a fee increase as proposed by Governor Doyle, the Department of Natural Resources will be forced make numerous cuts in:
 - Fish and wildlife stocking programs; Conservation law enforcement; Public hunting acres; Fish and wildlife field biologists and Customer services
- Keeping upland, shoreline and aquatic habitat intact and functional
- Multiple user conflicts - Increasing pressure on public lands
- Rapid growth – urban sprawl
- Nuisance wildlife and invasion by non-native species
- Disease management

Want to Learn More? Go to dnr.wi.gov/invest

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